

Message Text

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ACTION STR-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 IO-13 ISO-00 STRE-00 FEA-01

AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FRB-03

H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01

SP-02 OMB-01 /113 W

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P R 070615Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0600

INFO USDEL MTN GENEVA

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, GATT, JA

SUBJECT: PROPOSED U.S.-JAPAN MTN AND AUTO CONSULTATIONS JULY 29-30
AND AUGUST 2

REFS: (A)STATE 165003; (B) STATE 165511 (NOTAL)

1. EC MINISTER CALLED ON FOREIGN MINISTRY ECONOMIC BUREAU
DIRECTOR GENERAL MOTONO ON JULY 6 TO DISCUSS PLANS FOR MTN
CONSULTATIONS ON JULY 29-30 AND PROPOSE BILATERAL AUTOMOBILE
CONSULTATIONS. WE EMPHASIZED REAFFIRMATION AT PUERTO RICO
OF 1977 TARGET DATE FOR CONCLUSION OF MTNS. SINCE MOTONO
WAS MEMBER OF JAPANESE DEL IN PUERTO RICO, HE UNDERSTOOD
POINT FULLY.

2. WE PROPOSED HALF DAY FOR DETAILED DISCUSSIONS OF EACH OF THE FOUR
SUBJECTS LISTED IN PARA 2 OF REF (B). MOTONO WAS PERSONALLY
IN GENERAL AGREEMENT WITH THIS PROPOSAL, ALTHOUGH HE IS
DOUBTFUL THAT GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT, AND POSSIBLY OTHER
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TOPICS, WILL REQUIRE A HALF DAY BECAUSE SOME JAPANESE

GOVERNMENT AGENCIES HAVE NOT YET AGREED ON A COMMON POSITION. MOTONO SAID THAT FOREIGN MINISTRY WOULD BE SEEKING APPROVALS FROM OTHER PARTICIPATING MINISTRIES AND WOULD LET US KNOW RESULTS IN TWO OR THREE DAYS. HOWEVER, HE LEFT NO DOUBT THAT GOJ WOULD HAVE TO TREAT TALKS AS QTE INFORMAL AND NON-COMMITTAL END QTE.

3. MOTONO ALSO INDICATED FOREIGN MINISTRY IS WILLING TO HOLD BILATERAL TALKS ON AUTOMOBILES ON AUGUST 2, SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY OTHER PARTICIPATING MINISTRIES. ECON COUNS MET SEPARATELY WITH 2ND NO AM DIVISION DIRECTOR SAITO, WHO HAS DIRECT RESPONSIBILITY FOR AUTO STANDARDS. WE OUTLINED FULLY OBJECTIVES U.S. SIDE WISHES TO ACHIEVE. SAITO PERSONALLY SUPPORTS PROPOSAL FOR AUTO TALKS AND HAS SOLID SUPPORT IN MITI. HE WILL CONSULT MITI, MOT AND JAPAN ENV. PROTECTION AGENCY AND RESPOND IN A FEW DAYS TO OUR PROPOSAL.

4. COMMENT: EC MINISTER REAFFIRMED TO MOTONO THAT WE WANT MTN CONSULTATIONS TO BE SPECIFIC AND DETAILED. MOTONO DID NOT DIRECTLY DISAGREE, BUT HE EMPHASIZED INFORMAL NATURE OF TALKS BECAUSE SOME OTHER AGENCIES ARE NOT READY TO TAKE FIRM POSITIONS. EMBASSY NEVERTHELESS CONTINUES TO FAVOR HOLDING THESE CONSULTATIONS, MAKING THEM AS SPECIFIC AND DETAILED AS WE CAN, AND MAINTAINING PRESSURE FOR POSITIVE ACTION.
HODGSON

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